

HOUSE No. 3401

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. Stanley

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing the Massachusetts GI bill for veterans.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Allen J. McCarthy	7th Plymouth
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Kate Hogan	3rd Middlesex
Stephen R. Canessa	12th Bristol
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex
William G. Greene, Jr.	22nd Middlesex
Karen E. Spilka	Second Middlesex and Norfolk
Martin J. Walsh	13th Suffolk
Robert L. Hedlund	Plymouth and Norfolk
Michael F. Rush	10th Suffolk
Steven A. Baddour	First Essex
Willie Mae Allen	6th Suffolk
Brian A. Joyce	Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth

Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden
William G. Greene, Jr.	22nd Middlesex
Colleen M. Garry	36th Middlesex
Kevin J. Murphy	18th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MASSCHUSETTS GI BILL FOR VETERANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to provide higher
2 education tuition and fee waiver programs for veterans. therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law,
3 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

4 Section 19 of chapter 15A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the third paragraph,
5 inserted by section 2A of chapter 130 of the acts of 2005, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: -

6 Such guidelines shall provide tuition and fee waivers for Massachusetts National Guard members and
7 veterans, as defined in clause forty-third of section 7 of chapter 4. The commonwealth, not the institutions of public
8 higher education, shall bear the cost of such tuition and fee waivers for Massachusetts National Guard members and
9 veterans. The guidelines shall also require applicants for tuition and fee waivers under this paragraph to
10 demonstrate application for all available federal educational financial aid. The board shall report in writing the
11 number and cost of waivers under this paragraph not later than January 1 and June 1 of each year to the joint
12 committee on veterans and federal affairs and the house and senate committees on ways and means.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.